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LAKE WARE IN PANAMA CITY UNDER ADVISORY AFTER RAW SEWAGE RELEASE

City of Panama City reports 6,820-gallons raw sewage release



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Panama City, Fla. – The Florida Department of Health in Bay County (DOH-Bay) **advises against swimming in Lake Ware in Panama City between Drake Avenue and Beck Avenue.**

The City of Panama City is reporting a release of **6,820 gallons of raw sewage**. This is due to an **equipment malfunction at a lift station in the 1400 block of Foster Avenue**. The release entered a **storm drain that discharges into Lake Ware**. Cleanup actions have been completed.

Sewage contamination of water can expose swimmers to **intestinal viruses, bacteria, and parasites**. Swimming in the water may cause **symptoms like food poisoning** with vomiting and diarrhea. **Infection is possible** in **open cuts and wounds** that come in contact with the water.

The **City of Panama City is testing** the water and will share results with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Bay County Health Department. **Once levels are safe, the advisory will be lifted.**

For more information, contact the DOH-Bay's Environmental Health office at 850-481-4806 or visit Bay.FloridaHealth.gov.

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